Mr. James Simpson: In 1931, the people petitioned Government for a dispensary. Government have in view the opening of new dispensaries ; and the question of opening a new dispensary in the place referred to in the question will also be taken up in due course.

Prevention of Mosquito trouble in Shertallai.

11. ***Mr. E. P. Varghese**: Will the Government be pleased to state what steps have been taken for the destruction or the prevention of the increase of mosquitoes in the Shertallai taluk.

Mr. A Kumara Pillai (*Secretary to Government*): A filariasis survey of the taluk was conducted in 1107. A field observation station for carrying out observations on the factors relating to transmission of filaria was also started at Pattanacad in Shertallai. Based on the researches carried out, experimental filariasis control measures were begun in the taluk in 1933. This scheme attempts at the removal, from the mosquito breeding places, of pistia, a water plant on which the larvae of the mosquitoes which transmit the disease thrive. Up to the end of 1934 an area of 12 sq. miles was cleared of pistia.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: What was the conclusion of the experiments conducted ? Was it not that the water plant must be destroyed ?

Mr. A. Kumara Pillai: Yes.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: May I know what further steps have been taken to remove the water plant altogether ?

Mr. A. Kumara Pillai: They have introduced a system of hand removal.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: How many persons are now employed in the hand removal of these plants ?

Mr. A. Kumara Pillai: The controlling staff, now engaged in the work in Shertallai, consists of one Sub-Assistant Surgeon, one Research Assistant, four Maistries, 16 coolies and 2 peons.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai: Do the Government hope that, with that staff, the hand removal can be completed ; and, if so, in how many years ?

President: It is a matter of opinion.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: How many, in Shertallai, were suffering from filariasis at the time the campaign was started, and how many are still suffering from the disease ?

Mr. A. Kumara Pillai: That information is not available. The filarial survey was conducted in 1107. In that survey 6,404 persons were examined, out of whom 1,754 persons were found to be infected.

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Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Was the examination conducted during night time or during day?

Mr. A. Kumara Pillai: That information is not available now.

Appointments made in the Secretariat from 1-3-1109 to the end of Vrischikam 1110.

12. ***Mr. E. P. Varghese:** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the number of appointments acting and permenent made in the Secretariat since 1st Tulam 1109 till the end of Vrischikam 1110, the communities to which these appointed persons belong and the dates of their appointments?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: The *statement giving the information is laid on the table.

Mr. E. P. Varghese: May I know whether any Latin Catholic that was appointed during the period referred to in the question is now in the Secretariat?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I claim notice.

Mr. E. P. Varghese: Is there a single Latin Catholic graduate now in the Secretariat?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: The question relates to a specific period. Therefore I have to claim notice for this question also. The information is not now before me.

Mr. E. P. Varghese: Is there a single Latin Catholic non-graduate in the Secretariat now?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: Again, Sir, I can only repeat the answer to the previous questions.

Mr. Kochikal P. Balakrishnan Tampi (*Mavelikara and Kartikapalli* cum *Kunnattur*): May I ask whether there is any evidence to show that the Latin Christian Community is particularly good for Secretariat work?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: No. All communities may contain competent men for Secretariat work.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Was any Latin Christian appointed during the period referred to in the question?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: Yes.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: How many?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: One.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: How many applications were there during the period?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I claim notice.

* *Vide* Appendix III page.—

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